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FLOOR DEBATE

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increased, sheep increased. Swine was down a little bit. But look at what has happened to the swine industry in Nebraska. The agricultural mechanics, the number of exhibitors was up. The crops, the...well, that was down a little bit. It was a dry year. And horticulture, the number of exhibitors has gone up. Now the 2003 entries were down a little bit from the 2002 entries. Could that have been because there were no premiums paid? It's entirely possible. We have heard that it costs about \$26,000 to keep someone locked up in the penitentiary for a year. If you have a juvenile locked up in the Youth Detention Facility in Lincoln, that costs \$46,000 a year. What does it cost to keep a young person involved in 4-H or FFA? You can either pay now with the \$306,000 for all of these kids that are involved, kids that will then have something to do in the summer, some responsibilities with their animals, learning time management to get all of these projects done, using their creative talents. You can pay now to do that, or you can pay later, and assuredly a lot more, to keep these kids behind bars. Thank you, Mr. Speaker...Mr. President.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Hudkins. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President, members. I rise in support of the Wehrbein amendment. And as I have mentioned before on this floor, I strongly support the State Fair. I think I wanted to express my concern and shock at the announcement that Pat Lloyd is leaving Nebraska and the State Fair. I think he's been a wonderful influence and a wonderful cheerleader, if you will, for the State Fair. And I am sad to see him go, but I know these things happen, and I know sometimes they're necessary. I really don't like debating things like this. It's really something that we would all like to do. And I know there are many different agendas, many different priorities for people, and so I understand that not everybody can support this. But I...Senator Redfield, I was intrigued by your idea about another entity actually providing the money for these prizes. And maybe Lincoln would be the logical place to go for that. I don't know. I don't know if that would be on top of what Senator Bourne suggesting the other day, or if this would be in lieu of. I think that might be a nice way to go. I do think that Senator Pederson, Senator Don Pederson, was right,